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The Online Link St. John's Hillingdon



No. 149 Sun Sunday 4th August - Saturday 17th August 2024
Registered Charity 1128058

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Your Sunday Service Link (10.30 am):

Click on the church image above to join our 10:30am service on zoom from Sunday 10am
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89481452808>

St. John's Church, Royal Lane, Uxbridge
UB8 3QP. www.stjohnshillingdon.org.uk

Church Administrator: Nikki Bell

Email stjohnshillingdon@gmail.com
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Emergencies Phone: 07847 672599

Church Wardens:

Rick Williams Phone: 01895 232 888
Roy Munday Phone: 07711 278498

Safeguarding Officer: Richard Bell

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Phone: 07934 871538



Last week my two best friends and I went up to London on our monthly visit to the National Gallery. As it was a somewhat wet day (being Summer) the Gallery was probably the most packed we have seen it on any of our previous expeditions. A lot of the visitors were foreigners (we imagined they had decided to visit the Gallery as it was an indoor activity to do on a showery

day), from various countries. The thing that amazed us most about the visitors was that they didn't spend any time studying the wonderful paintings on offer, but took photographs and moved swiftly on to the next "selfie" or picture. I felt sad that the skill and work of the paintings artists had become just something to be recorded as an "I have been here" moment.

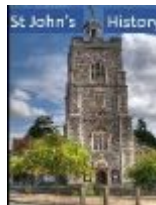
There is so much to see, and to learn, when looking at the paintings I felt the visitors were missing out on so much. It reminded me of the opening lines of the poem "Leisure" by William Henry Davies – What is this life if, full of care, we have no time to stand and stare; and closes with these lines:- "A poor life this if, full of care, we have no time to stand and stare."

We all lead very busy lives and sometimes we just forget to stop, and look around us at what God has given us – not just in nature but in the amazing talent of artists like Renoir, Monet, Caravaggio and all the other wonderful artists that we are lucky enough to be able to see for free in our National Gallery. A poor life indeed if we think we only need to take a photograph of something beautiful and "capture" it on a mobile phone. If all we do is take snapshots of our lives how much are we missing out on what has been given to us so freely – it is as if we are living our lives one step removed.

When you read this in The Link, Rick and I will be staying for a few days with our friends just outside Canterbury, as we do nearly every Summer. As we are forecast to have sunny and dry weather we will invariably spend at least one evening sitting in their garden watching the stars come out as the sun slowly sets. It is one of my favourite things to do – because our friends live in a quiet country road, we have no light pollution, we have very little noise (maybe the odd baaing of one of the sheep in the field at the bottom of their garden) and we really can appreciate the beauty of both the countryside and the sky and stars which God has given us to appreciate and admire. We will certainly find the time to "stand and stare" and the beauty all around us.

Carol

Phillipians 4: 8 - Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think about such things.



Tour around the Monuments

The Walker Family: hounds and swans!

Continuing our tour of the monuments of St John's, we are staying in the Prayer Chapel this week. Facing the direction of Uxbridge, there is a monument to your left to John Walker his wife Elizabeth and his son John.

John was born in 1652, the eldest son of John and Mary Walker who are also buried in the churchyard. John's sister Mary, has a monument in the nave aisle (pictured below). John began work as a Clerk Assistant at the House of Commons in 1682, a post he held until his death. He married Elizabeth daughter of Sir William Clerke of Shabbington in the chapel of the Tower Of London in 1691. They lived in a house called Little London which was in the area we now know as Goulds Green. John and his son both died in 1715 and Elizabeth in 1734.

The Walker family are included in the Visitation of Middlesex of 1663. A visitation was a tour of inspection undertaken by [Kings of Arms](#), the purpose of which was to register and regulate the [coats of arms](#) of the [nobility](#), which were in some cases being used illegally and fraudulently. Henry VIII gave authority to remove or deface those [arms](#) which were being unlawfully used and checks were made that titles of [knight](#), [esquire](#), or [gentleman](#) were legitimate. It would seem that our Walker family had a right to their coat of arms as it is still in evidence on the monument! The coat of arms that we see on the monument is a merger of the 2 family crests, and includes the hound from the Walker family crest and 3 swans from the Clerke family crest (Elizabeth's maiden

name).

John Walker made generous gifts to the church including a parish chest, money to renovate the pulpit and beautify the church. He also paid for a velvet pall to cover coffins which was available to hire when needed and the money raised to help the poor of the parish. *Christine Bartlett*



Reading for Sunday 4th August 2024

Theme: Wisdom's Foundation

Reading: Proverbs 1:1-7 & 3:1-8

- 1 The proverbs of Solomon son of David, king of Israel:
- 2 for attaining wisdom and discipline; for understanding words of insight;
- 3 for acquiring a disciplined and prudent life, doing what is right and just and fair;
- 4 for giving prudence to the simple, knowledge and discretion to the young—
- 5 let the wise listen and add to their learning, and let the discerning get guidance—
- 6 for understanding proverbs and parables, the sayings and riddles of the wise.
- 7 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline.
- 3 My son, do not forget my teaching, but keep my commands in your heart,
- 2 for they will prolong your life many years and bring you prosperity.
- 3 Let love and faithfulness never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart.
- 4 Then you will win favour and a good name in the sight of God and man.
- 5 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding;
- 6 in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.
- 7 Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord and shun evil.
- 8 This will bring health to your body and nourishment to your bones.

Reading for Sunday 11th August 2024

Theme: Wisdom's Legacy

Reading: Psalm 127

A song of ascents. Of Solomon.

¹ Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labour in vain. Unless the Lord watches over the city, the watchmen stand guard in vain.

² In vain you rise early and stay up late, toiling for food to eat— for he grants sleep to those he loves.

³ Sons are a heritage from the Lord, children a reward from him.

⁴ Like arrows in the hands of a warrior are sons born in one's youth.

⁵ Blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them. They will not be put to shame when they contend with their enemies in the gate.



Themes and Readings for August 2024

Series: Wisdom and Poetry

4th August- Title: **Wisdom's Foundation** Reading: **Proverbs 1:1-7 & 3:1-8**

11th August- Title: **Wisdom's Legacy** Reading: **Psalm 127**

18th August- Title **Wisdom's Reflection** Reading: **Ecclesiastes 1:1-11 & 3:1-17**

28th August- Title: **Wisdom's Celebration of Right Relationships** Reading: **Song of Solomon 2:10-13 & 8:6-7**

Bible

Emergency Numbers

Overwhelmed.....Matthew 11:28-29
Worried.....Philippians 4:6-7
Scared.....Isiah 41:10
Lack of Faith.....Proverbs 3:5-6
Tempted.....1 Corinthians 10:13
Stressed.....Matthew 6:25-34
Sick.....Exodus 23:25
Drained.....Psalm 23
Lost.....Romans 8:38-39
Sad.....Deuteronomy 31:8
Bitter.....John 16:33
Lonely.....Hebrews 13:5

HOBBIT (available) 2:17



A Rocha Easy ECO Tip for August

Assist local wildlife during very hot weather. Provide hedgehogs with hedgehog biscuits (available at many pet stores and online) or dog biscuits (small/ crumbed) as their prey of slugs, snails and worms diminishes, and ensure a safe exit for them and other small mammals if you have a garden pond. Help garden birds by maintaining a filled bird bath and supplying supplementary food including black sunflower seeds, pinhead oatmeal, soaked sultanas, raisins, currants, mealworms, waxworms, and a nutritious seed mixture, when natural supplies become scarce.

Children's ECO Summer Holiday Activities:

If you are lost with what to do with the children during the summer holiday's, try activities that entertain and also educate children about sustainability and caring for our planet.

1. Get into the Garden and plant with the children - Gardening teaches children about nature, responsibility and patience. You could set up your own rain water collection point to water your garden, teaching children to be resourceful. Build a Bug Hotel- using material like sticks, leaves and pine cones creating a little habitat for insects, encouraging biodiversity in your back garden. If you do not have a garden plant seeds in a pot indoors or go on a nature walk. Make a list with your child/Children of what they would like to see and you can tick them off. In Hillingdon we are lucky to have so many green spaces with wild flowers and trees.
2. Do a litter walk with your children at a local park. Turn cleaning to an adventure walk! It's a great way to teach environmental Stewardship. Investigate if there are any locally organised litter clean ups happening beforehand. If not make sure you have gloves and talk to your children about what they can and cannot pick up.
3. Go for a bike ride explore the many local bike trails in Hillingdon.



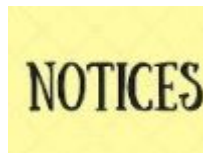
Please include in your prayers;

For all those Living in fear, suffering, injured, bereaved, displaced, caught up in tragedy and disaster around the world.

For those that are in need Beryl Rowles, Bill & Linda White, Gervase Craven, Jean Jacklin, Joyce & Hughie Marshall.

For Adi Tanwar waiting to hear about his visa news.

For Mitchell and Katie who are getting married at St. Johns on 7th September 2024 at St. John's.



Join me, Chris Rodrigues, for a creative afternoon in August at St Johns:

A time for those of you with an interest in art and craft to get together and perhaps try something new or work on your own project.

-Try a simple printmaking technique to produce a single image using everyday objects, natural materials, card and tape.

Printing on either Friday 16th or Sunday 18th August 2024. 2pm-4pm

-Drawing inside and outside. Bring your sketchbook and any favourite materials to create work in response to the space inside or outside St John's Church.

Drawing on either Tuesday 27th or Saturday 24th August 2024. 2-4pm

If you would like to come along please add your name to the sheet in church, choosing your preferred date, speak to me or you can send an email to chriskyrod@gmail.com

Please see images as examples below.



The Gardening Team are in need of a garden fork for weeding as one has recently broken. If you have one that you no longer use or if you would like to donate to the cost of a new one please let Nikki know.

Also do you have or know anyone who has a good in working order petrol or electric lawnmower that they no longer want or need and are looking to rehome to free up some valuable space. The churchyard gardening team are looking for a used but loved petrol or electric lawnmower, as one of the lawnmowers is sadly getting to the point that it can no longer be repaired.

We could purchase a new lawnmower but due to the sheer size of the churchyard grounds (example: mowing the grass in the churchyard takes 11hours!) and the amount of hard ground and stones the churchyard team felt a used one would be more beneficial and easy to deal with the conditions than a new one.

If you do know someone or have one please let Nikki in the office know.

Thank you to Peter Janssens for his hard work in creosoting and oiling the cross and benches in the Garden of Remembrance. It does make such a difference to our churchyard and protects these items from the elements. Please do take a look when you are next passing by.



London Ambulance Service

We would like to thank the London Ambulance Hillingdon branch for being with us on Mondays throughout June and July, and for all that they do to help us in our times of need. It has been a wonderful opportunity for us to help them with a space for their much needed training and thank them for being fantastic throughout their stay with us. Please pray that they continue to help those most at need and stay safe whilst doing so.

The London Ambulance Team have offered us some basic first aid training after their training has finished if you would be interested please contact Nikki in the office for more information.



Cleaning St John's

The next big clean will take place on Saturday 10th August 2024 at 9:30am all cleaning supplies will be provided.

If you would like to help but are unable to attend on 10th and have some free time during the week please contact Nikki

or use the laminate sheet in the kitchen to look at what area/s may need some attention (Please do record what area you clean so that others are aware)

Artwork at St John's

It has been great to be able to display my artwork at church and share it with everyone.

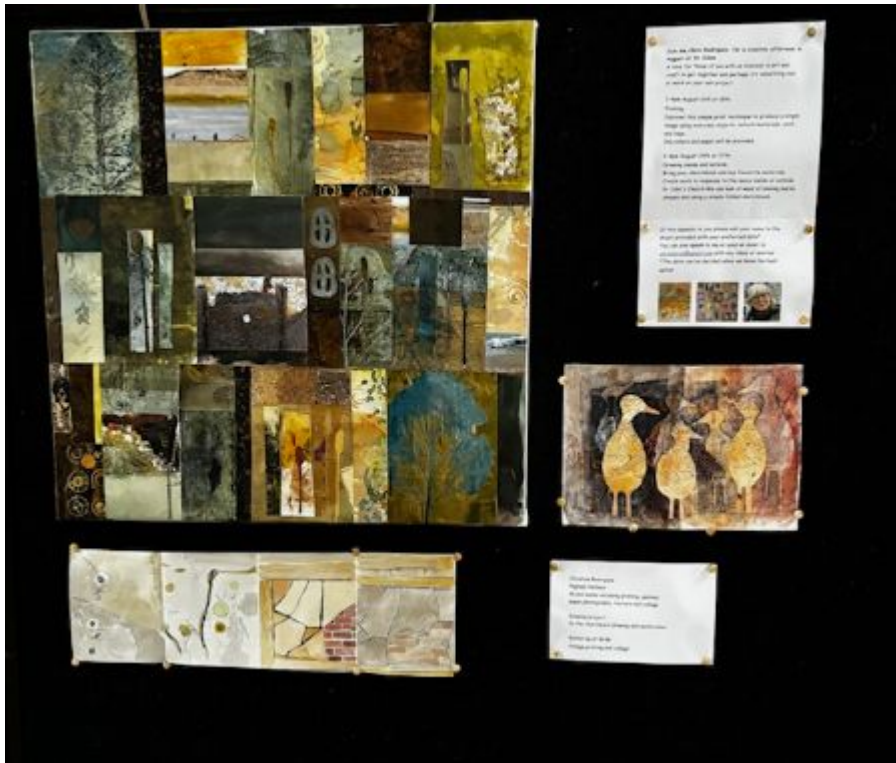
The first image of artwork on display this month is titled:

Pagham Harbour.

This artwork was created using mixed media- including printing, painted paper, photography, texture and collage.

The second Image is a **Drawing Project** in St. John's churchyard. and uses drawing and watercolour.

The last image is titled **Gathering of Birds** which is mixed collage and printing. *Chris Rodrigues*.



We would like to thank an anonymous person who has kindly donated funds to the church.

We also thank God for the late Marigold Marsh as we also received a donation from Marigold's estate.

Both donations were gratefully received.



Find out what's been happening in Hillingdon and upcoming events in the Hillingdon People Magazine. For the latest edition (July/August 2024) please [click here](#)



Volunteering at St. John's

We are always looking for volunteers at St John's if you would like to help out, please speak to Nikki. No matter how small even 30 mins can make a huge difference. We are especially looking for individuals to help with our refreshments on Sundays at St. John's.



St John's Prayer

*Father God Almighty, we love you for your Majesty.
We are truly sorry for our thoughtless actions and deeds.
We ask for you to share your wisdom with us and grant us healing, peace and the ability to forgive, however hard it may be.
We promise to listen for you. We will sacrifice for others and accept your desire for us.
Thank you, God for the joy of your love. Amen*



Looking Ahead....

Sunday 4th 10:30am Service.

Monday - 9:30am Churchyard Clearing, Private Prayer, 7pm Mandolin Monday, 8pm Bellringing Practice.

Tuesday - 9am Private Prayer, 12noon Jazz, 7:30pm Accordion Band.

Wednesday - 9:15am Nikki office, 10am WE Group, 12noon Words and Music, 1pm Knitting.

Thursday - 9:15am Nikki Office, 12noon Jazz

Friday - 9am Private Prayer, 12noon Jazz.

Saturday - 9:30am Cleaning, 11:30am Music Tuition- Grundon room.

Sunday 11th- 10:30am Service.

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Tuesday - 9:15am Private Prayer, 12noon Jazz 7:30pm Accordion Band.

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Friday - 9am Private Prayer, 12noon Jazz.

Saturday - 11:30am Music Tuition - Grundon Room.

How to join the Sunday service from your landline/mobile (without Internet)

- Dial **020 3481 5237** or **020 3051 2874**.

- Enter meeting ID Code **894 8145 2808** then the # key

- You will be asked to enter your participants' ID. Ignore this, and just press # key

- There is no password. If you are asked for one, then just press the # key.

CHEQUES

Payable to:
Hillingdon Parochial Church Council
St. John's Church
Royal Lane

STANDING ORDER

Set up a Standing Order with your bank or building society using these details:
Barclays Bank, 142 High St,
Uxbridge, UB8 1JX

Uxbridge
UB8 3QP

Sort Code: 208916
Account No: 20465615

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